

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

FCC COMMISSIONERS

Office of Public Affairs, Public Service Division

November 1997

WILLIAM E. KENNARD (Democrat)

Nominated to the Commission and designated to serve as Chairman by President Clinton; confirmed October 29, 1997; sworn in November 3, 1997; term ends June 30, 2001. Chairman Kennard had been General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission since December 8, 1993. Previously, he was a partner and member of the board of directors of the Washington, D.C. law firm of Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand. At Verner, Liipfert, specialized in communications law, with an emphasis on regulatory and transactional matters for communications companies, including broadcasters, cable television operators, programmers and cellular telephone providers. Served as Assistant General Counsel and as Legal Fellow for the National Association of Broadcasters. Born in Los Angeles, CA. Graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University and received J.D. from Yale Law School. Member of the California and District of Columbia Bars.



SUSAN NESS (Democrat)

Nominated to the Commission by President Clinton; confirmed May 19, 1994; sworn in May 23, 1994; term ends June 30, 1999. Previously, Commissioner Ness served as Vice President and Group Head of the Communications Industries Division of American Security Bank. Her portfolio included companies providing cable television, radio and television broadcast, satellite telecommunications, cable programming, rural telephone, and wireless communications. Earlier, she founded and directed the Judicial Appointments Project of the National Women's Political Caucus to increase the representation of women on the federal bench. She also served as Assistant Counsel to the Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing of the U.S. House of Representatives. Her prior civic activities include chair of the Montgomery County Charter Review Commission, vice chair of the Montgomery County Task Force on Community Access Television, and president of the Montgomery County Commission for Women and a member of Leadership Washington. Born in Elizabeth, N.J, she holds a B.A. from Douglass College (Rutgers University), an MBA from the Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania) and a J.D., *cum laude* from Boston College Law School. Member of the District of Columbia Bar.



HAROLD W. FURCHTGOTT-ROTH (Republican)

Nominated to the Commission by President Clinton; confirmed October 28, 1997; sworn in November 3, 1997; term ends June 30, 2000. Previously, Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth was the Chief Economist for the U.S. House Committee on Commerce. The committee has legislative jurisdiction over laws governing telecommunications. Was a Senior Economist for Economists Incorporated from 1988-1995. Served as Research Analyst for the Center for Naval Analyses. Born in Knoxville, TN. Holds an S.B. in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University. Is a member of the American Economics Association and the Econometrics Society.



MICHAEL K. POWELL (Republican)

Nominated to the Commission by President Clinton; confirmed October 28, 1997; sworn in November 3, 1997; term ends June 30, 2002. Was the Chief of Staff of the Antitrust Division in the Department of Justice since December 1996. Served as an Associate with the law office of O'Melveny & Myers, LLP, where he practiced in the areas of telecommunications, antitrust, and employment law. Served as a judicial clerk to the Honorable Harry T. Edwards, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Was a policy advisor to the Secretary of Defense for matters involving the United States-Japan security relationship. Served as a cavalry officer in the U.S. Army from 1985 to 1988. Born in Birmingham, AL. Graduated from the College of William and Mary with a degree in Government. Received his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.



GLORIA TRISTANI (Democrat)

Nominated to the Commission by President Clinton; confirmed October 28, 1997; sworn in November 3, 1997; term ends June 30, 2003. Served on New Mexico State Corporation Commission since 1994, where she was the first woman elected to that office. Served as Commission Chair in 1996. Served on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commission's communications committee. Was an attorney in private practice in Albuquerque. Named one of the Nation's 100 most influential Hispanics by Hispanic Business Magazine in 1996. Born in San Juan, P. R. Received undergraduate degree from Barnard College of Columbia University and law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law. Board member of the Dennis Chavez Foundation. Member of the New Mexico and Colorado Bars and the American Bar Association, the Albuquerque and Colorado Bar Associations and the American Bar Association.

